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ABSTRACT

Large areas of Venezuelan cities have emerged product of unplanned marginal growth that exceeds their limits. The state have been implementing policies and actions for the purposes of, simultaneously controlling the growth and improve the quality of urban life, however, the urbanization has advanced and the city has spread in an uncontrolled manner, generating fragmentation and disarticulation which are the physical expression of the marginality, poverty and segregation. We present results of research developed during the period 2002 - 2011, focused on the analysis of Maracaibo and its marginal urbanization, accepting the diversity of approaches and trying to give answers to the characteristics of the physical dimension of the city, its form and function, as a creation of a process of growing and production in which there is the influence of the politics, economics, social and cultural systems, which integrated to produces and urban fact. In this context is analyzes and characterize the process of the marginal urbanization of Maracaibo, and the configuration of its urban genome, identifying and describing the different typological constituent genes to reveal the impact of the informal settlements in the morphology of the city, determining which variables have operated in its appearance and spatial location. In this way it recognizes the production of the urban genome as a result of intervention executed in an official manner through the planning as well as, the actions from the marginal urbanizations. The methodology combines the traditional quantitative method of classification of the urban tissue with the proposal of the way of urban growing of Sola-Morales (1997) and the genetics of the territory: Generating an analytical approximation that permits recognize the informal city as a cultural product of a process of auto production of social collective, that accompanied by a high content of historical analysis, allows to characterize the morphogenetic process of evolution of the urban genome in seven period of study, and reveal the impact that the informal urbanization and the instruments of management and planning have had in the morphology of the city. With this goal a geographic information system is developed that allows quantify and generate the mapping that illustrates the process of evolution of the genome. We conclude, recognizing Maracaibo as an informal city and the marginal urbanization as a dominant process in the urbanization, the typological genes as preponderant and protagonist of the process of configuration of the genome and the planning as a tool that, while has structured the territory and generate poly centricity, the same has been based , in part, in the recognition of the informal dynamics trends and legitimate informal occupations through the expansion of the urban limit and its zoning as an areas of residential use, to finally characterize the genome as a dual configuration expressing: monocentrality, fragmentation, polarization, segregation, whose management was centralized , and its evolution to a complex, diverse , hybrid , polycentric genome, whose public management debate between decentralized model and the communal diluted centralized.

Keywords: Informal City, Marginal Urbanization, Urban Morphology, Territorial Genetics, Typological Gene.